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UnitiWall Backgrounder

UnitiWall Corporation

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Leadership

John Sopta – Chief Executive Officer
Joe Aprile – Chief Operating Officer
Xavier Toby – Senior Director Manufacturing and Supply Chain
Collette Hart – Director of Sales
Deborah Byrne – Product Engineering and Resiliency Consultant

Leadership Biographies

John Sopta: As UnitiWall's Chief Executive Officer, John is responsible for the company's financial, human resources, marketing, and sales functions. Recognized for his ability to grow market-leading companies, John began his career as a luxury home builder, learning construction from the ground up. The challenges of delivering award-winning projects while navigating economic and industry cycles and the region's growing shortage of skilled trades, set the stage for an experience that would change his career: a visit to a modular panel factory.



Refocussing on this new and promising industry, in 2013, John joined SLB Prefab, a global leader in the development of innovative prefabricated cold-formed steel structural wall panels, floor, and roof truss systems. John's ability to communicate the benefits of these new and complex building systems delivered the growth targets that made SLB a success. As well, SLB led to another career-transforming experience, for it is here that he met Joe Aprile, his future business and innovation partner.

Between John's ability to help people imagine a better future through more efficient and sustainable methods of construction, and Joe's technical acumen and deep experience developing modular products that make that vision a reality, they share a unique synergy. Together they founded Skyrise Prefab (Canada) in 2015. Skyrise brought the STO Wall system to the Canadian market, leading the way with new architectural options and panel systems that eliminated the need for additional brick layers and scaffolding. Having grown Skyrise into a market leader with a 60,000 square foot manufacturing plant, offices in three cities and 70 employees, in 2020 John and Joe sold the company to STO AG (Germany).

In 2021 John and Joe launched UnitiWall, a company that represents the sum of their experiences in developing and bringing to market prefabricated modular panels. Leading UnitiWall's entry into the market, John is in his element: managing and growing a company that will yet again revolutionize the prefab wall paneling industry while contributing to a better, more sustainable built environment.

Joe Aprile: Since 1997, Joe Aprile has been at the forefront of prefabricated, modular wall panel development and manufacture. A leading authority in revolutionizing the way we build, Joe started his career as an integral member of one of the first teams to successfully develop and implement prefabricated, cold-formed steel structural wall panels, floor, and roof truss systems. Since then, he has worked to advance the technology for use in single-family homes to mid-rise buildings, and now, at UnitiWall, to unitized building envelope panels for complex retrofits and for large new structures and skyscrapers.



His tenure leading projects, design, licensee support, engineering, and construction at Genesis Worldwide divisions KML Engineered Homes and KML Building Solutions, saw him develop many of the prefabricated modular products and systems that are industry standards today. At Genesis, he was also instrumental in the development of manufacturing equipment, efficient assembly line systems and processes, and ground-breaking proprietary software programs that shortened production cycles for construction drawings from one year to a few days. These developments enabled Genesis to expand globally as a leading licensor of programs to manage business operations, manufacturing processes, and home design and construction using cold-formed steel prefabrications.

In 2015, Joe joined forces with John Sopta, to launch Skyrise Prefab (Canada), focusing on structural wall systems for low-rise and mid-rise multi-family buildings. At Skyrise, Joe and John leveraged their extensive experience in cold-formed steel construction enabling the company to quickly become an industry leader. As well, they introduced finished exterior wall panels using the Sto Panel system, a development that ultimately resulted in the sale of the company to the German parent company STO AG.

The launch of UnitiWall in 2021, is once again placing Joe where he shines best: innovating. Although cold-formed steel and prefabrication technology hasn't changed significantly since he first developed it, he is once more pushing the boundaries of traditional construction methods and reimagining the possibilities of prefabrication by applying the technology to more diverse projects, in complex retrofits and in taller and larger structures.

About UnitiWall

UnitiWall Corporation has developed the most complete prefabricated, high-performance, fully unitized wall panel system for use in new construction and deep energy retrofits. UnitiWall panels incorporate all exterior cladding options and window types, are customized for each project, and delivered fully clad, ready to install. Based in Mississauga, Ontario, UnitiWall provides a simple, energy efficient and future-ready solution that is revolutionizing building envelope construction and making projects safer and more cost-effective. Learn more about UnitiWall at www.unitiwall.com

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